

## Columbia County Health Department Flu Clinics\*

October 2	9-4 PM	Evans Gov't Center Auditorium
October 4	10-4 PM	Evans Gov't Center Auditorium
October 6	9-4 PM	Evans Gov't Center Auditorium
October 10	1-4 PM	Grovetown City Hall
	3-6 PM	Evans High School
October 12	3-6 PM	Greenbrier High School
	8-4 PM	Appling Health Department
October 13	8-4 PM	Harlem/Grovetown Health Department
October 17	3-6 PM	Harlem High School
October 19	3-6 PM	Lakeside High School
October 20	8-4 PM	Harlem/Grovetown Health Department
October 23	8-4 PM	Appling Health Department
	1-4 PM	Harlem City Hall
October 26	2-6 PM	Augusta Prep School/Goodwin Commons

*\*Pending vaccine availability and no restrictions.*

Please bring your Medicaid, Medicare Part B or Peach Care card, along with your CMO cards, if applicable. The cost is \$20 for each vaccine. The Health Department will accept cash, check, or money order. Credit cards only accepted in the Health Department clinics.

## Mammography Visits

The Columbia County Health Department will host the next visit of the Breast Health Center Mobile Mammography Unit on October 19th at the Evans Health Department in the Evans Government Center next to Building D. The last scheduled date for the Mammography Unit to set up at the Evans Health Department clinic is December 21th.

Appointments are required! Please call the Evans Clinic at 706-868-3330 to make an appointment. Methods of payment include individual, insurance, State BCCP Program (if eligible), Medicaid, or Medicare. For more information or to make an appointment, please call 706-868-3330.

## Special Pet Adoption Event!

If you have been considering adding a new pet to your household, please plan to come to the special adoption event October 20th (8 AM - 5 PM) and 21st (8 AM - noon) at the Columbia County Animal Care & Control at 6337 Columbia Road in Appling.

All dogs and puppies will \$10 and all cats and kittens will be \$5 on these two days!

Please come by and see if you can give one of our unwanted pets a new home. To see all available pets, please visit our "Lost and Adoptable Pets" page online at [www.columbiacountyga.gov](http://www.columbiacountyga.gov) (from the home page, navigate to "Government" and then to "Animal Care & Control" to take a look).

Only one pet can be adopted per family, and all pets adopted must be spayed or neutered in accordance with regular adoption policies. Also, state regulations require that closed shoes must be worn to enter the kennel area. Light refreshments will be served! Call (706) 541-4077 for more information.

[www.columbiacountyga.gov](http://www.columbiacountyga.gov)

## Georgia Forestry Open Burning Requirements

Columbia County Forestry Services will begin issuing BURN-PERMITS for open burning as of October 1, 2006. Citizens can call 1-877-652-2876 or 1-877-OK2-burn or go on-line at [www.gatrees.org](http://www.gatrees.org) to get an open burning permit. Remember to be considerate of your neighbors and let them know if you intend to burn yard waste! Other open burning requirements are listed below:

- Burn permits are issued only for natural vegetative materials and are good only the day they were issued.
- Yard debris (e.g., such as leaf piles and small limb piles) must be 6' by 6' or smaller.
- Be sure that material is dry to reduce the amount of smoke that is produced.
- Fires cannot be initiated before 8 AM and should be completely extinguished before dark.
- In highly populated areas, burning should be conducted from 10 AM until 30 minutes before dark.
- It is unlawful to burn man-made materials such as tires, shingles, plastics, paper, and household trash.
- Permits will not be issued on days where the fire danger or fire danger forecast is high. (Class 4 or 5 is considered dangerous.)

**Columbia County  
Community Calendar**

**October 8th (Sunday) - 3 PM - The Diviners**  
Performing Arts Theater - The Columbia County Community Events Committee and the award-winning Harlem High School Drama Department present The Diviners by Jim Leonard. Tickets are available on the day of performance. Adults are \$5 each and children under 12 are free.

**October 14th (Saturday) - Renaissance Festival**  
Amphitheater and Memorial Gardens -  
\* **10 AM to 6 PM** - Arts and crafts, live musical and drama performances, period food, and hands-on children's activities. This portion of the festival is free.  
\* **6 - 10 PM** - The Harlem High School Drama department will be presenting Shakespeare Made Easy, a collection of Shakespeare's favorite shows in a non-traditional setting. Fun for all ages with audience participation. The tickets are \$5 each.

**October 26th (Thursday) - 5:30 - 8:30 PM - Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat Halloween celebration** - Patriots Park Gym - Local businesses will pass out candy to children in costume. It is also a canned food drive for local food banks and there is a costume contest for children.

**October 28th (Saturday) - 11AM - 4 PM - Columbia County Eats**  
Amphitheater and Memorial Gardens - Local restaurants and caterers will be on hand to give the public a taste of all the great places to eat in Columbia County. This event will also be a canned food drive collection for local food banks, as well as musical entertainment throughout the day and a pumpkin carving station. It is free to attend; however, sampling fees may apply.

**For more information on these events, call  
(706) 312-7191**



# Endless Opportunities

Volume 28, October 2006

## Your Understanding of the Issues is Critical



*L to R: Board of Commission Members - Vice Chairman Steve Brown, Commissioner Diane Ford, Chairman Ron Cross, Commissioner Tom Mercer, and Commissioner Lee Anderson unanimously approved the bond referendum which would allow the citizens to vote for these needed projects.*

The projects planned under this bond program are large and expensive, but it is more cost-effective to do them now than it is to wait until the situation worsens and the cost of land, materials, and labor increases.

A sign of a great unified county is when citizens see beyond their own needs and understand and support the needs of the community. The community will benefit as a whole even though many of the specific projects will not directly impact every citizen in Columbia County. The projects to be financed by the bonds are presented as four groups or packages for the voters' consideration. Voters should consider them as such.

Our citizens have steadfastly supported their local government in the past and as a result have realized positive, quality projects from bond financing such as the new Library and Justice Center.

If all four categories of projects – Water, Recreation, Transportation, and Public Safety – are passed, it will cost the property owner an additional \$40 per \$100,000 of assessed value in annual property taxes. Citizens will have the opportunity to vote on each category separately.

If not done now, the cost for these needed projects in the future could be substantially more expensive. We urge you to educate yourself on these referendum issues, and we look forward to continuing to work with you on building a better Columbia County for us all!

The County will be conducting two additional Town Meetings to provide information on the projects to the citizens of the County. All are cordially invited and urged to come and learn about this bond referendum.

Thursday	October 12	Evans Government Center Auditorium 630 Ronald Reagan Drive - Evans	6 PM
Thursday	October 26	Savannah Rapids Pavilion 3300 Evans-to-Locks Road - Martinez	6 PM

Further information is also available on our website at [www.columbiacountyga.gov](http://www.columbiacountyga.gov). If you have any questions, please feel free to call 706-868-3379 or e-mail us at [bondinfo@columbiacountyga.gov](mailto:bondinfo@columbiacountyga.gov).

## Sample Bond Referendum Ballot

The Columbia County General Obligation Bonds Referendum

### 1. Water Bonds

Shall General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$12,475,000.00 be issued by Columbia County, Georgia to finance the cost of acquiring, constructing, improving and equipping certain water, sewerage and stormwater facilities and infrastructure, to prepare a master plan for the Stormwater Utility Service Area and to pay capitalized interest on such Bonds for a period not to exceed 13 months?

☐ YES  
☐ NO

### 2. Transportation Bonds

Shall General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$16,915,000.00 be issued by Columbia County, Georgia to finance the cost of planning, designing, constructing and improving streets, roads, bridges and sidewalks and to pay capitalized interest on such Bonds for a period not to exceed 13 months?

☐ YES  
☐ NO

### 3. Recreation Bonds

Shall General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$9,310,000.00 be issued by Columbia County, Georgia to finance the cost of planning, acquiring, constructing, improving and equipping park and recreational facilities and to pay capitalized interest on such Bonds for a period not to exceed 13 months?

☐ YES  
☐ NO

### 4. Public Safety Bonds

Shall General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$5,080,000.00 be issued by Columbia County, Georgia to finance the cost of acquiring, constructing and equipping public safety buildings and acquiring public safety equipment and to pay capitalized interest on such Bonds for a period not to exceed 13 months?

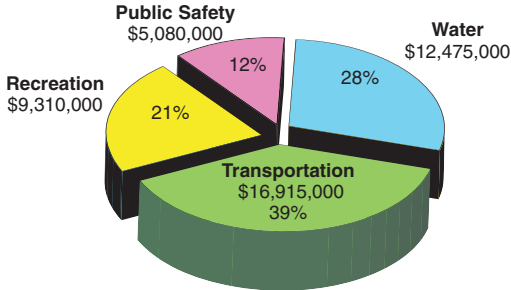
☐ YES  
☐ NO



Capital Improvements Plan Master List of Water Projects		
Project Description		Estimated Bond Funding
<b>Master plan for the Stormwater Utility Service Area</b> - Identify and establish required improvements for storm drainage infrastructure as it pertains to both water quantity and water quality.		\$520,000
<b>Stormwater Maintenance facility</b> - Establish a maintenance facility to be located on the Water Utility campus on Chamblin Road to house personnel and equipment for the Stormwater Utility.		\$750,000
<b>Petersburg Station Subdivision</b> - Correct existing and prevent future erosion along the Wynngate tributary to include drainage pipe replacement, stream bank reinforcement, and vegetative restoration.		\$600,000
<b>Wynngate Subdivision</b> - Correct existing and prevent future erosion along the Wynngate tributary to include drainage pipe replacement, stream bank reinforcement, and vegetative restoration.		\$700,000
<b>Halifax Subdivision</b> - Correct existing and prevent future erosion along the Reed Creek tributary to include stream bank reinforcement, and vegetative restoration.		\$300,000
<b>Betty's Branch</b> - Correct existing and prevent future erosion along the Betty's Branch tributary to include stream bank reinforcement, and vegetative restoration.		\$1,000,000
<b>La Vista Drive</b> - Install 760 feet of 48" drainage pipe to improve storm flow trough the La Vista Drive area.		\$250,000
<b>Ridge Crossing, Phase II A</b> - Initiate engineering studies and land surveys in the Spring Lakes Area to improve storm drainage at the head of the Reed Creek tributary. <b>Funds from the Stormwater Utility will be used for the balance of the \$2.5 million project.</b>		\$935,000
<b>William Few Parkway</b> - Implement drainage improvements along Long Branch tributary adjacent to William Few Parkway and Windmill Subdivision.		\$300,000
<b>Mullins Pond regional retention for the Reed Creek Basin</b> - Dredge the pond, remove and rebuild the dam, and install flood control devices and velocity dissipaters. The facility would function as an active regional retention pond on the upper portion of the Reed Creek tributary which will minimize the impact of storm flows and velocities downstream of Old Evans Road. <b>Total cost of project estimated to be \$4 million; additional funding will come from the Stormwater Utility and the insurance premium tax.</b>		\$1,000,000
<b>Bowen Pond</b> - Remove sedimentation from this County-owned pond, install a silt collection structure, and initiate stream restoration.		\$1,000,000
<b>Dozier Road</b> - Install 12" water main to provide water service in the Cobbham, White Oak, and Ray Owens Roads area. The 37,500 feet of water main are to be installed primarily in the County right-of-way.		\$1,500,000
<b>Euchee Creek Drainage Basin</b> - Install approximately 22,000 feet of 36" sewer and approximately 26,200 feet of 21" sewer line. This project is located in the Little River Wastewater Treatment Plant service area and has demonstrated significant potential for residential development. <b>The entire project will cost \$7 million, and the Water Utility will fund the remaining \$6 million.</b>		\$1,000,000
<b>Water line</b> - Acquire 10" water line and booster pump station from Harlem between Wrightsboro and Harlem-Grovetown Roads.		\$286,000
<b>Water line</b> - Construct water line to serve G.R. Tucker and Old Blythe Roads to provide water service to residents south of the City of Harlem.		\$122,000
<b>Water line</b> - Construct 11,000 feet of water line on Old Louisville Road to improve reliability of water service to the Cities of Harlem and Grovetown and surrounding areas.		\$286,000
<b>Water storage tank</b> - Build a 500,000 gallon elevated water storage tank to serve the Cities of Grovetown and Harlem and County systems.		\$700,000
<b>Sanitary sewer line</b> - Install 5,000 feet of 15" sanitary sewer line to increase sewer capacity to the City of Grovetown and surrounding areas.		\$609,000
<b>Water Projects Total:</b>		<b>\$11,858,000</b>
<b>Capitalized Interest:</b>		<b>\$617,000</b>
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$12,475,000</b>

Capital Improvements Plan Master List of Recreation Projects		
Project Description		Estimated Bond Funding
<b>Blanchard Woods Park</b> - Acquire land for additional fields and facilities to meet future needs.		\$2,300,000
<b>Evans Town Center Park</b> - Fund the purchase of property and provide restroom facilities, power and water lines, lighting, and minimal parking to enhance the current open space.		\$4,800,000
<b>Blackstone Camp Road Park</b> - Acquire land and install park improvements for passive recreation as well as a proposed tennis complex.		\$250,000
<b>Wildwood Park</b> - Construct road and install utility improvements so park can better accommodate large events and tournaments.		\$1,500,000
<b>Recreation Projects Total:</b>		<b>\$8,850,000</b>
<b>Capitalized Interest:</b>		<b>\$460,000</b>
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$9,310,000</b>

2006 Proposed Bond Projects  
Totaling \$43,780,000



Capital Improvements Plan Master List of Public Safety Projects		
Project Description		Estimated Bond Funding
<b>Master plan</b> - Develop master plan for future expansion of County facilities on Columbia Road site in Appling to include future expansion of the Sheriff's Administration Office, Detention Center, and training facilities as well as other County facilities.		\$140,000
<b>Training facility for Sheriff's Office</b> - Construct a weapons training facility to improve safety and reduce risk management costs.		\$310,000
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$450,000</b>
<b>Fire Department Training Center</b> - Fund land acquisition, construct training center, and modify existing house on Columbia Road to be a new fire station. This project will provide for a centrally-located fully-staffed 24/7 fire station in the west end of the County, a training facility for firefighters, and a drafting pit for pump tests. This project also includes renovations to the #13 Winfield and #15 Burks Mountain Fire Stations.		\$775,000
<b>#16 Leah Fire Station</b> - Fund land acquisition, construct a new station, and set up an immediate temporary fire truck bay and field office to provide a 24/7 staffed fire station at 3653 Ray Owens Road within a 5-mile radius of Ridge Road and other areas of Leah.		\$930,000
<b>Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT) items</b> - Purchase equipment needed to establish a fully-trained 24/7 HazMat Response Team to allow for an immediate response to hazardous material incidents within Columbia County.		\$400,000
<b>Ladder truck for Martinez-Columbia Fire/Rescue</b> - Purchase ladder truck to be housed at the #7 Sugar Creek Drive Fire Station to cover the industrial area and other wide-span multi-story facilities in the west side of the County including the Detention Center and hotels along I-20. It would also support the existing ladder truck in the event of a major fire in the Martinez/Evans area.		\$750,000
<b>Battalion Chief vehicle for the western and northern portion of the County</b> - Purchase a specially outfitted vehicle as a first response unit with advanced life-saving equipment such as spare air tanks and a system to refill them, extrication tools, medical supplies, salvage covers, bolt cutters, axes, pry bars, air monitors, etc. This vehicle will be located at #10 Station on Ray Owens Road for 24/7 service.		\$120,000
<b>New Class A fire engines</b> - Fund 4 new vehicles which would place a pumper in each new County fire station to meet increased call volume as well as the ISO requirement of having 1 reserve pumper for every 8 fire stations. Stations #10, #13, #14, and #16 will receive a new fire engine.		\$1,004,765
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$3,797,765</b>
<b>Computer software, data conversion and user training</b> - Acquire software, data conversion, and training for all County courts for day-to-day functions which include but are not limited to: simple/advanced search capabilities, event recording/scheduling, docket/calendar generation, warrants/return of service processing, disposition/case closing, post-disposition event tracking, receipting/cashier management, related bookkeeping/accounting functions, integrated document imaging, document/form generation, management/statistical reports, and role-based security.		\$400,000
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$400,000</b>
<b>Public Safety Projects Total:</b>		<b>\$4,829,765</b>
<b>Capitalized Interest:</b>		<b>\$250,235</b>
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$5,080,000</b>

Capital Improvements Plan Master List of Transportation Projects		
Project Description		Estimated Bond Funding
<b>William Few Extension</b> - Fund the right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation to construct a 3-lane road with a bike lane and a bridge over Euchee Creek to connect Hardy McManus to William Few. The County is funding the design using SPLOST funds, and GDOT will fund the construction. <b>By the County performing this work, the County anticipates receiving over \$11 million from GDOT for the construction.</b>		\$546,120
<b>Industrial Park Drive</b> - Widen road from 3 to 5 lanes from Washington Road to Evans-to-Locks Road. In addition, this project will improve the intersection of Washington/Belair/Industrial Park Drive.		\$4,928,000
<b>Owens, Cox and Gibbs Roads</b> - Fund the design to widen the loop of Owens Road at Washington Road (at the Target Center) to Washington Road at Gibbs Road north of Evans to a 3-lane road. <b>By the County performing this work, the County anticipates receiving over \$14 million from GDOT to pay for the construction.</b>		\$712,404
<b>Hereford Farm Road</b> - Fund the design for widening from Gibbs Road to Belair Road to 3 lanes. <b>By the County performing this work, the County anticipates receiving over \$4 million from GDOT to pay for the construction.</b>		\$211,706
<b>Transportation projects to support school construction</b> - Assist the Board of Education with infrastructure needs associated with school construction such as turn lanes, intersection improvements, and sidewalk construction.		\$2,500,000
<b>Martinez Area Redevelopment</b> - Install transportation improvements in the Rose Lane/Marsella Avenue/Settlement Road areas to include road realignments, extensions, and streetscapes.		\$2,500,000
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$11,398,230</b>
<b>Gibbs Road/Evans Elementary School</b> - Construct a sidewalk on Gibbs Road for school foot traffic from La Pointe to Park Ridge.		\$384,000
<b>Cox Road/Evans High School</b> - Construct a sidewalk to Evans High School from Hereford Farm Road to Belair Road.		\$556,000
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$940,000</b>
<b>Creek crossing</b> - Construct a 2-lane all-weather culvert on Reynolds Farm Road (Country Road 259) to provide a safe creek crossing for residents and emergency response vehicles.		\$358,000
<b>Crawford Place Road (County Road 78)</b> - Pave from SR 150 to Ray Owens Road to create a paved connection between Cobbham and Ray Owens Roads. With the realignment of the intersection to align with Yelton Road, this road will provide an alternative corridor for the western area of Columbia County.		\$2,084,000
<b>Hinton Wilson Road (County Road 93)</b> - Pave from County Line Road to Wrightsboro Road to provide a paved roadway connection between County Line to Wrightsboro Roads.		\$1,301,000
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$3,743,000</b>
<b>Transportation Projects Total:</b>		<b>\$16,081,230</b>
<b>Capitalized Interest:</b>		<b>\$833,770</b>
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$16,915,000</b>